

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

Outline of Policies Towards
French Indo-China and Thailand

Decided at the Liaison Conference
February 1, 1941

I. Aim.

On the high road to the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, the policy aim towards French Indo-China and Thailand, with which the Japanese Empire is confronted consists in forming a close inseparable union with both nations, militarily, politically, and economically, for the sake of self-existence and self-defense.

II. Direction.

1. The Japanese Empire will soon take a stronger policy towards French Indo-China and Thailand, putting required pressure upon them with a view to attaining her aim.

If unavoidable she will resort to arms against French Indo-China.

2. These policies will swiftly be put into force in rejection of the maneuvers of the United States and Great Britain and to attain the objective as soon as possible.

III. Outline.

1. The Japanese Empire will enforce mediation of the disputes between the French Indo-China and Thailand, whose aim is the disposition of the lost territories. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the Japanese Government will take such necessary steps as will enable her to establish a leading position in both regions.

2. She will conclude the Japanese Thailand Agreement with Thailand at the earliest possible date, while on the other hand, she intends to bring the economic negotiations with France to an immediate conclusion.

Simultaneous with these steps, she will take the first opportunity to conclude an agreement on general cooperation, with a view to increasing friendly relations between Japan and French Indo-China as well as on military cooperation, whose aims are to secure prevention of disputes between French Indo-China and Thailand and to defend the commercial intercourse between Japan and French Indo-China.

The political and military demands of Japan to be supplemented in the above agreement is as follows:

A. France be made to agree to prevent French Indo-China from cooperating politically and militarily in all forms with third party powers.

B. The establishment or the use of air bases and port facilities in specified areas in French Indo-China as

well as the establishment of organizations required for the maintenance thereof.

C. Accomodations of special conveniences concerning billeting and movements of the Imperial Armed Forces.

3. With a view to making the most of both politics and strategy, required preparations will be made for operations, and at the same time, the time for the exercise of arms will be previously fixed without losing any time.

4. In an earnest effort of attaining the objective, timely pressure will be increased thereupon in accordance with the progress of the negotiations. In case the subjugation action is met by military resistance of the French Indo-China, the said units there will forcibly exercise arms.

5. In case France should not accede to a proposal of settlement of disputes, the use of arms against French Indo-China will be previously provided for. The operation thereof will be decided upon separately. The use of arms in case of her refusal of the conclusion of agreement shall be previously provided for while starting of operations will be decided upon, according to the situation at the time. The foregoing use of arms is limited to making France comply with our requests. Even after the use of arms, we will leave, as best we can, the maintenance of peace and order, administration, and the economy of French Indo-China under the authorities of French Indo-China.

Def. Doc. # 2812

6. In case Thailand should refuse our demands, the contents of the Japanese-Thailand Agreement shall be altered or some pressure shall be brought to bear etc. to get her to accede to our demands as much as possible. In any case, steps will be taken in such a way so as not to get Thailand to take her side with Britain and the United States.

7. To take it into consideration to unify the public opinion prevailing in Japan so as to meet the said steps, and not to bring about useless friction by aggravating the problem in the Southern areas, whose object is the United States and Great Britain. In addition, the following memorandum was decided upon at the Liason Conference between the Imperial Headquarters and the Government on January 30:

"With respect to the 2nd Article in II, 'Policy,' the attainment of the objective of this policy shall be completed for March or April. Best efforts should be made diplomatically

Def. Doc. # 2812

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, who occupy the post of Chief of the Archives Section, Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 6 pages and entitled "Outline of Policies Towards French Indo-China and Thailand" decided at Feb. 1st 1941 at the Liaison Conference is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (Foreign Office).

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 27th day of October, 1947

/S/ HAYASHI, Kaoru (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place,
on this same date

Witness: /S/ SATO, Takegoro (seal)